

“Understanding Watercolor”

Instructor – Ruth Andrews-Vreeland

— SUPPLY LIST —

1. Paper. **Arches 140# cold-press Watercolor Paper (5-6 sheets)**

No, it's not cheap paper, but WELL-WORTH the cost! If a watercolor is done on inferior, cheap paper, it's a true experience in frustration. You can purchase a 12"x9" pad of Arches 140# paper at either Hobby Lobby or Artisan's of Santa Fe (in the Nob Hill area). Hobby Lobby may have the best price, but it can also be purchased on Amazon.com. (*I also love working on the 14" x 10" size available on Amazon.com.*) Often, I paint on Arches 300#, which has the “deckled edge” preserved. I love its thickness.

Please also bring a few sheets of drawing paper for our preliminary sketches. I will also have my big light-box with me, in case anyone wants to do a tracing, and we will have quite a discussion about this.

2. Brushes. You may purchase inexpensive brushes at Hobby Lobby or Michael's. (*But please don't buy the cheap brushes that WILL fall apart as you work, and be frustrating!*) I recommend Royal and Langnickel brushes, which are made very well, but are inexpensive. (*Hobby Lobby has them on sale periodically.*) I also love, love the set of 3 ZEM 2400-Golden-Taklon “Cat's Tongue” brushes available on [amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com) for under \$10 now for the set.

A. **one half-inch “wash brush”** (with a rectangular or angled edge)

B. **one “round” brush in either a #8 or #10 or #12**

C. **one small #2 liner-brush**

(*I also own various brushes like a “rake brush,” used for “hair” or “grass,” as well as a few large flat brushes for laying in washes, which are mostly used for laying in large washes for the background of a painting. If you already have these types of brushes, please bring them to class.*)

3. Paints. The quality of your watercolor tubes matters greatly – so please ***do not*** purchase cheap Grumbacher (or other cheap-brand “student-grade”) paints such as Winsor-Newton's beginner “Cotman” line. We will be working with **professional-quality**: Winsor-Newton Artist's Watercolors, M. Graham (*my personal favorite!*), Daniel Smith, Holbein, QoR, or Stephen Quiller. Below is a list of the colors you will need. (If possible, please try to find and purchase the first two pigments especially, as they have become my all-time favorite “Go-To” pigments! Part of my instruction involves setting up a palette with the first two, to achieve PERFECT neutrals by mixing them.)

A. **Antwerp Blue** (by Winsor Newton)

B. **Brown Madder** (by Winsor Newton)

C. **Burnt Sienna**

C. **Alizarin Crimson**

D. **Gamboge Yellow (or “New Gamboge”), plus Quinacridone Gold** (if you have it, or can get it!)

E. **Scarlet Lake**

F. **Neutral Tint**

Other colors I have and use just a bit less often. These are not essential, as other similar colors will work.

Winsor-Blue (Red Shade), Peacock Blue, Azo Orange, Terra Rosa (by Daniel Smith),

Anthraquinone, Manganese (or Cerulean, though it's “grainier”), **Sap Green, Hooker's Green,**

Winsor-Yellow, and Sepia.

MISCELLANEOUS:

1. Any #2 drawing pencil you may have on hand
2. A good kneaded eraser
3. A tub for your water

4. ½” to 1/4” thick piece of foam-core board (*cut down to about a 14” x 11” for the 12”x9” paper to be mounted on*)
5. A roll of masking tape
6. Your favorite palette. (Mine is the Stephen Quiller ROUND palette, which you can find on [amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com), and that’s the least expensive buying option I’ve found for this excellent palette!)
7. An old toothbrush
8. About 10 “non-fuzzy” paper-towels (like “Bounty,” or those nifty blue shop towels!)
9. Miskit / Frisket, and a miskit/frisket “Rubber Cement Pik-up”
10. A single-edge razor-blade, or an Xacto-knife